

111TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1965

To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to provide financial assistance to the State of Louisiana for a pilot program to develop measures to eradicate or control feral swine and to assess and restore wetlands damaged by feral swine.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

OCTOBER 28, 2009

Ms. LANDRIEU introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works

A BILL

To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to provide financial assistance to the State of Louisiana for a pilot program to develop measures to eradicate or control feral swine and to assess and restore wetlands damaged by feral swine.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Feral Swine Eradi-
5 cation and Control Pilot Program Act of 2009”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSE.**

7 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

1 (1) wetlands in Louisiana provide substantial
2 cultural, economic, and ecological benefits to the
3 United States and is essential to protecting coastal
4 communities from flooding;

5 (2) nonnative invasive feral swine populations
6 in coastal Louisiana are increasing and severely im-
7 pacting wetlands, especially acreages recovering from
8 the negative impacts of nutria herbivory;

9 (3) Louisiana State University researchers have
10 determined that feral swine damage to coastal wet-
11 lands is very similar to nutria damage but is more
12 severe and may exceed the 90,000 acres previously
13 impacted by nutria; and

14 (4) methodologies developed for the State of
15 Louisiana under the Coastwide Nutria Control Pro-
16 gram established under the Coastal Wetlands Plan-
17 ning, Protection and Restoration Act (16 U.S.C.
18 3951 et seq.) may provide the basis for the effective
19 control and restoration of wetlands damage caused
20 by feral swine.

21 (b) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this Act is to author-
22 ize the Secretary of the Interior to provide financial assist-
23 ance to the State of Louisiana for a pilot program to de-
24 velop measures to eradicate or control feral swine and to
25 assess and restore wetlands damaged by feral swine.

1 **SEC. 3. FERAL SWINE ERADICATION AND CONTROL PILOT**
2 **PROGRAM.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to the availability of ap-
4 propriations under subsection (e), the Secretary of the In-
5 terior (referred to in this section as the “Secretary”) may
6 provide financial assistance to the State of Louisiana to
7 pay the Federal share of the cost of carrying out a pilot
8 program—

9 (1) to study and assess the nature and extent
10 of damage to wetlands in the State caused by feral
11 swine;

12 (2) to develop methods to eradicate or control
13 feral swine in the State that may also be used in
14 other States; and

15 (3) to develop methods to restore wetlands
16 damaged by feral swine.

17 (b) COORDINATION.—In carrying out this section, the
18 Secretary shall ensure that the pilot program consider and
19 use, as appropriate, the knowledge and expertise gained
20 through the activities carried out under—

21 (1) the Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection
22 and Restoration Act (16 U.S.C. 3951 et seq.); and

23 (2) the Nutria Eradication and Control Act of
24 2003 (Public Law 108–16; 117 Stat. 621).

25 (c) COST SHARING.—

1 (1) FEDERAL SHARE.—The Federal share of
2 the costs of the pilot program under this section
3 may not exceed 75 percent of the total costs of car-
4 rying out the pilot program.

5 (2) IN-KIND CONTRIBUTIONS.—The non-Fed-
6 eral share of the costs of the pilot program may be
7 provided in the form of in-kind contributions of ma-
8 terials or services.

9 (d) LIMITATION ON ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES.—
10 Not more than 10 percent of financial assistance provided
11 by the Secretary under this section may be used for ad-
12 ministrative expenses.

13 (e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is
14 authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary to carry
15 out this section \$1,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2011
16 through 2013.

○